

WASHINGTON.
"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1848.
THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.

"I have been, I am, and will continue to be," said Mirabeau, "a man of the People, in defiance of the privileged orders, because their privileges are perishable, but the people are eternal."
So shouts every demagogue who seeks to cajole, deceive, and use the people as instruments; and all history abounds with proof of success on one side, and on the other delusion. But the demagogue is a gambler; his game has all the elements, and is subject to all the changes, and, as to final success, has to receive the almost sure fate of the gambler as his reward. Mankind, alas! are prone to hunger and thirst after flattery. The flowery language of the interested deceiver is heard with admiration and believed with momentary credulity. But in the end, wo to the seducer! Truth will out; and, like the volcano, the longer pent, the more terrific the explosion.

Political corruption has been exposed, explained, and presented with its inherent deformity in Mr. J. P. KENNEDY'S Address. We hope our readers will not shrink from this exposition because of its length. In proportion to the extent of the evil, the matter of seven columns of our paper can be only an index.
It is as false in philosophy as it is in logic to say "small causes produce great effects." The effects are, on the contrary, in most cases rather less than greater than the cause. There is now an upheaving of the moral mass, and many are they who must politically sink to rise no more before the elements resume a quiescent state; but it is so alarming, nevertheless, to reflect that though the revolution has been provoked, the people of the United States seek not to destroy, but to renovate; and what they have to renovate we cannot pretend to specify in an editorial paragraph. Such a work to describe, would demand a volume of no small number of pages, and previously demands a nation to execute. We may observe, and recommend it to our readers to observe, that the first barricade to remove is the monstrous dogma that no national work of peace is constitutional; second, and that the nation is forbid to defend its own industry.

The people have risen to drive away the builders and defenders of these barricades, and, though determined in their purpose and warmed by having been deceived, proceed with the calm rationality of men who have been exposed to wrong, and with that magnanimity which seeks to disarm and, if not forget, at least forgive. We do not use this language to round a period. We are describing what we conscientiously regard the real nature of a revolution in progress. The United States have actually been retrograding into clanship; the imperial power standing in the way of carrying into effect the most necessary purpose of nationality. Many nations have not performed great works, nor conceived their value; but we have had the fiat pronounced that our organic construction forbids the attempt. Had not the promulgation of such doctrines become history, no person would dare to predict their possibility. It is time indeed for reaction. Forbearance has become, if not a crime, a most destructive error.

WHIG NOMINATIONS.

The distinguished Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, was renominated for Congress in Boston on Friday last. We are exceedingly glad to learn that this gentleman has yielded to the earnest wishes of his district. The nomination was at first declined, in accordance with a previous intimation publicly given, but Mr. WINTHROP has been induced to reverse this purpose, and has again, though very reluctantly, after nine years' service in the House of Representatives, assented to the nomination.

That excellent Representative, the Hon. JULIUS ROCKWELL, has been nominated in the Pittsfield district of Massachusetts for reelection.
In the 3d district of New York the Hon. J. PHILLIPS PHOENIX has been nominated for Congress. This gentleman has already served with ability in the House of Representatives, and his nomination will be hailed with satisfaction by all who know him.

In the 6th district, the Hon. JAMES MONROE has been unanimously nominated for the remaining term of the present Congress. There was no greater favorite in the House than this estimable gentleman when he was formerly in Congress, and his return to it will be most gratifying to his numerous friends. At the last election, it will be remembered, the seat was contested, D. S. JACKSON receiving the certificate, but was ousted by the House. JAS. BROOKS, the distinguished editor of the Express, has been nominated to represent the district in the next Congress.

We are very glad to see that the Hon. WILLIAM DUEK, of the 23d district, has waived his express desire to retire from Congress, and has accepted a nomination for reelection.

In New Jersey, JAMES G. KING has been nominated for Congress in the place of the Hon. DUDLEY S. GREGORY, who we regret to find positively declined a reelection. He will, however, have a worthy successor. The New York Tribune well observes that, to an extensive and diversified acquaintance with the business interests of the country, Mr. KING unites the abilities which dignify and the virtues which honor public station; and his intimate acquaintance with the commerce and trade of the country eminently fit him for distinguished service in the revision of our national policy which will devolve on our next Congress. It is (adds the Tribune) one of the best signs of the coming era that an unusual number of strong men are being chosen to the next Congress.

THE PENNSYLVANIA COAL REGION.—The vote in the coal region of Schuylkill county stood as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Votes.
Johnston, (Whig) 3,111
Longstreth, (Dem.) 1,582
Majority for Johnston 1,529

MORE CHANGES FOR TAYLOR.—We understand (says the Miners' Journal) that the recent Locofoco candidate for Prothonotary, the Clerk of the County Commissioners, the Postmasters at Schuylkill Haven and Orwinstown, with several other prominent men in the Locofoco ranks, have come out openly for Gen. Taylor.

THE ELECTIONS.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Through all the recent conflicting statements respecting the Pennsylvania election, we have not wavered in our confidence of the election of Governor JOHNSTON, the Whig candidate. This confidence was confirmed last night by the receipt of the following telegraphic despatch from our Baltimore correspondent:

"I learn from Harrisburg direct that the official returns are all in except McKean county. JOHNSTON'S majority will not vary ten from 300."

OHIO ELECTION.

The uncertainty which, from the contradictory rumors in circulation for several days past, has rested on the result of the Governor's election in the State of Ohio, would seem at last to be dissipated. We received last evening, from a prominent gentleman in Ohio, the following telegraphic despatch, written yesterday:

"SEABURY FORD is certainly elected Governor; his majority is probably about two hundred."

FLORIDA ELECTION.

We did not intend to publish the returns from Florida until they were all received in an official form. But as the "Union" has requested us to do so, we give it the benefit of such as we have, as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Counties, For Governor, For Congress, Duval.
List of Florida counties and their respective votes for Governor, Congress, and Duval.

Whig majorities 554 726

The counties remaining to be heard from are Benton, Calhoun, Dade, Hillsborough, Levy, and St. Lucie, which will very slightly reduce the above majorities.

In the Legislature, the Tallahassee Sentinel gives the Whigs twenty-three or four out of the forty members of the House, and twelve out of the nineteen Senators, and we do not observe that any Democratic authority disputes this claim. The Jacksonville Republican of the 12th instant, more precise than the Sentinel, gives the members certainly known to be elected to the House, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Whigs, Democrats.
List of elected members of the Florida House and Senate, categorized by party.

This statement shows that nineteen Whigs and nine Democrats were known to be elected; and the Republican adds "that we shall certainly get five more Whig members, and probably six or seven."

Upon this Legislature will devolve the duty of electing a United States Senator, four Judges, a Secretary of State, an Attorney General, Treasurer, Comptroller, and Register of Public Lands; also Solicitors for the different Circuits.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The following are the names of the Representatives elect from this State to the Thirty-first Congress:

- 1. DANIEL WALLACE, re-elected.
2. JAMES L. ORR, vice R. F. Simpson.
3. JOSEPH A. WOODWARD, re-elected.
4. JOHN McQUEEN, vice Alex. D. Sims.
5. ARMISTEAD BERT, re-elected.
6. ISAAC E. HOLMES, re-elected.
7. W. F. COLCOCK, vice R. B. Rhett.
Mr. HOLMES, it is well known, has declared for Gen. TAYLOR. Of Mr. McQUEEN, who ran in opposition to Mr. SIMS, the Charleston Mercury says: "Gen. McQueen, it is understood, has not, up to this time, expressed any preference between the candidates for the Presidency; but is, nevertheless, a decided Democrat. Col. Sims, (our former Representative in Congress,) it is well known, is decidedly for Cass and Butler."

GEORGIA.

Well, full returns have been at last received from Georgia, and the Democratic majority of the popular vote (which last year was 1289) is now 261! We learn this from the Charleston Courier. Never were there so many misrepresentations as were sent into Pennsylvania to influence the election there. The Union stated that Georgia had gone for the Locos by an increased majority of 1400! [Richmond Whig.]

VERMONT.—The new Legislature of this State assembled at Montpelier on Thursday last. Hon. JOHN KIMBALL (Whig) was chosen President of the Senate by 19 votes out of 28. In the House, many ballots were had for Speaker, without making a choice. The last vote stood:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Votes.
For William C. Kittredge, (Taylor) 108
For Horatio Needham, (Van Buren) 71
For Homer W. Weston, (Cass) 38

Necessary to a choice, 110. One vote taken from either of his opponents would have elected Mr. Kittredge.

It will be noted that the Whigs have ten to twelve majority in the Senate, and will have no trouble in electing their State officers and a United States Senator.

VERMONT.—As previously stated the Legislature of Vermont assembled at Montpelier on the 12th instant. On that day the Senate was organized by the choice of Hon. JOHN KIMBALL as President.

In the House, after many ballots, WILLIAM C. KITTREDGE was chosen Speaker, receiving 109 votes.

NOT THIS TIME.—A gentleman who has just finished a journey through Pennsylvania says that he saw several flags flying in various places, bearing the deceptive inscription, "CASS, BUTLER, AND THE TARIFF OF '42." This game did very well in the canvass of 1844, but will not pass muster now. Then the song was:

"Oh, poor Conney Whigs, what make you look so blue? We will have Polk and Dallas, and the Tariff of '42."

The people of Pennsylvania were cheated once into the support of a Locofoco Free-trade President, but will not bear a repetition of the offence. [New York Express.]

OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

We believe it is now settled that the following gentlemen will compose the Delegation from the State of Ohio in the Thirty-first Congress:

- 1. David T. Disney, Dem. vice J. J. Farn, Dem.
2. Lewis D. Campbell, Whig, vice David Fisher, Whig.
3. Robert C. Scheuch, Whig, re-elected.
4. Moses B. Corwin, Whig, vice Richard S. Canby.
5. Emory D. Potter, Dem. vice Wm. Sawyer, Dem.
6. Rodolphus Dickinson, Dem., re-elected.
7. Jonathan D. Morris, Dem., re-elected.
8. John L. Taylor, Whig, re-elected.
9. Edson, B. Olds, Dem., vice T. O. Edwards, Whig.
10. Charles Switzer, Dem., vice Daniel Duncan, Whig.
11. John K. Miller, Dem., re-elected.
12. Samuel F. Vinton, Whig, re-elected.
13. W. A. Whitteley, Dem., vice Thos. Richey, Dem.
14. Nathan Evans, Whig, re-elected.
15. Wm. F. Hunter, Whig, vice Wm. Kennon, Dem.
16. Moses Hoagland, Dem., vice John D. Cummins, Dem.
17. Joseph Cable, Dem., vice George Pries, Dem.
18. David K. Carter, Dem., vice Samuel Lahm, Dem.
19. John Crowell, Whig, re-elected.
20. Joshua R. Giddings, Whig, re-elected.
21. Joseph M. Root, Whig, re-elected.

CONGRESSMEN ELECTED IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The following are the names of the gentlemen elected to the Thirty-first Congress from the State of Pennsylvania. The members of the present Congress are also appended for the sake of comparison:

Table with 4 columns: 31st Congress, 30th Congress, Name, Party.
List of Pennsylvania congressmen for the 30th and 31st Congresses.

*The returns of Mr. ROBBINS is charged as the result of gross fraud, and his right to a seat will be contested.

Among the passengers from Liverpool on the steamer Britannia were Mr. WM. W. CORCORAN, of this city, and the Hon. JOHN DAVIS, of Massachusetts.

The Journal of Commerce states that "Mr. CORCORAN'S negotiations in London have been concluded entirely to his satisfaction. He brought no specie, but will draw for the proceeds of the stock. Of the amount sold, about three-quarters was taken for permanent investment. As the negotiations became public, there were other parties who offered to purchase additional sums; but the amount previously disposed of being deemed sufficient, their offers were declined. The terms of the sale are private, but understood to be at least equal to the quotations that have ruled here during the past month."

An editor in Pennsylvania conjures his friends the Locofocos not to vote for the Whig ticket, because if the Whigs get into power they "will repeal the Subtreasury and bring on a general bankruptcy, such as occurred in 1840." This sage teacher has unwittingly given his own party a hard hit. As to the Subtreasury, it is doubtless right. The Whigs will certainly put that notable scheme to death without the benefit of clergy, and but few to mourn its fate, for its parents are at heart as sick of it as its avowed enemies. But how is it about the "bankruptcy of 1840"? If such an event happened in that year, did the Whigs cause it? It did not follow the repeal of the Subtreasury, but its adoption; and were not the Democratic party in power when it happened? Does not this Democratic oracle remember that Mr. VAN BUREN was President in 1840, and only went out of office in 1841; and did he not succeed General JACKSON in 1837? Say, then, second Daniel, how the Whigs are to blame for the bankruptcy of 1840, when they did not take charge of the Government until 1841!

WISCONSIN.—The Presidential contest in the eastern part of this young State will be almost exclusively between TAYLOR and VAN BUREN. In Western parlance, Cass is nowhere. In Racine, which has been strongly Democratic, a recent election for Mayor resulted as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Votes.
Norton, Free Soil 231
Meade, Taylor 171
Bryan, Cass 84

The Free Soil party in Wisconsin, it is confidently believed by the best-informed politicians, will create such a division in the Democratic ranks as to give the electoral vote of the State to TAYLOR and FILLMORE.—Buffalo Com. Ad.

THANKSGIVING.—The Governor of Maryland has appointed Thursday, the 23d of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving to God, to be kept and observed by the good people of Maryland.

The Governor of SOUTH CAROLINA has issued his proclamation, convening the Legislature of South Carolina, in extra session, on the first Monday in November, to elect Presidential Electors on Tuesday thereafter.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

The following appeal to Irishmen, taken from a Philadelphia paper, is, in its line, one of the most pitiful and contemptible things which could possibly be imagined. One almost blushes to burning to know that such a spirit exists in connexion with the discharge of the responsible and solemn duties of American citizens; and it would probably, on many accounts, be better to bury such exhibitions of such demagogical passion in oblivion, rather than bring them before the people to shock the intelligent or mislead the ignorant by the vain show of partisan rancor. At any rate, here is the appeal; read it, and think as freemen, as intelligent freemen, and decide as men to whom the greatest political interests of the world are entrusted, as to the fitness of such spirits to be the leaders of the people.

Gen. Cass has successfully fought against the Irish. The great cry of the Whig and National press is, that, if elected, we shall have another war with England. "Do Irishmen, who have such good cause to hate England, consider it a depreciable to Gen. Cass to say that he is inclined to war upon their ancient enemy? We think not. "Gen. Cass's readiness, at a moment's warning, to let the British lion see that the American eagle is prepared to assert her lofty position and maintain it in spite of all the rapid vanities of the foe she has already twice chastised for his insolent interference, will not endeavor him to any Irishman whose love for Ireland is less than his love for the House of Hanover."

WHOLESALE FALSEHOOD.

We received lately, by mail, from a friend in the country, a copy of a pamphlet issued from this city by the "Jackson Democratic Association Committee," thousands of which, under the frank of certain members of Congress, have been scattered broadcast over the land. It would be a Herculean task to undertake a refutation of all the misrepresentations which are contained in the sixteen pages of this electioneering production, but there is one, the first and most prominent of them, of so unblushing a character, and so directly in the teeth of recently-published official testimony, that we feel bound by truth and justice to nail it at once to the counter as one of the basest of the base coin issued from the Locofoco mint. On the first page of this pamphlet we find the following assertion:

"Official records prove that Gen. TAYLOR has received 'from the public Treasury, extra of his regular pay, the enormous sum of seventy-four thousand eight hundred and sixty-four dollars; and this not for extra services, but while performing his regular duties in the line of his profession.' What is the precise amount of money which Gen. TAYLOR has received for his forty years' hard service we do not pretend to state, because we have not the Treasury accounts before us. But the assertion that he has received this large sum over and above his proper pay is designed to convey the idea (and herein is its falsehood) that he has received it illegally, gratuitously, and over and above the lawful allowances of his commission. Do they mean to say that Gen. TAYLOR has received one cent more, either in pay or allowances, (for quarters, forage, or subsistence,) than Gen. BUTLER received while he was in service? They dare not say this. Gen. TAYLOR has never received one dollar of extra pay or extra allowance; the concocters of this insidious libel know that he has not; yet they would impose upon the ignorant and credulous the belief that Gen. TAYLOR—whose Catholic honesty was never tainted by the breath of calumny before the People made him their candidate for the Presidency—has, in the shape of extras, fraudulently and illegally received this sum from the Treasury."

This miserable pamphlet was probably issued from the Union press. If so, we hope that it was without the knowledge of the Editor of that journal, or that it was issued before the appearance of Adjutant General JONES'S letter to the Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON on the subject of Gen. TAYLOR'S pay and emoluments.

And now, to put the seal of falsehood upon this artfully-concocted calumny, we republish the correspondence between Mr. JOHNSON and the Adjutant General; and we call upon the Official Editor—if he has a spark of that gratitude left which he lavished on Gen. TAYLOR, when the old hero achieved the victories which, and only which, redeemed the Administration from ruin and execration—to place these letters in his own journal, and make one sacrifice to truth and fair dealing:

Mr. Johnson to Adjutant General Jones.

BALTIMORE, SEPTEMBER 30, 1848.
MY DEAR GENERAL:—An article in the Union, a few days since, relating to the pay and emoluments received by Major General TAYLOR, although I hope not so intended, is capable of the construction that he has received more than the laws of the United States authorize, and that he has received it in the nature of extra allowances. Although there may be instances in which such allowances may be perfectly proper, I am as satisfied as I can be, without actual knowledge, that General TAYLOR has never applied for or received them. And, as you are or may be easily possessed of the information necessary to put the matter beyond doubt, you will oblige me by saying—

First—If, from the commencement of his military service to the present time, General TAYLOR ever applied for or received, in the form of pay, emoluments, or otherwise, one dollar more than the laws in terms allowed; and

Secondly—Whether his pay and emoluments during the period he has been a General have not been the same as those received by Major General Whistler he held the same post in the army of the United States.

I have no hesitation in making these inquiries of you, because I know that yourself—a soldier to whom the country is indebted—will rejoice to do justice to a brother officer who has so greatly elevated the military fame of the United States, and whose only office, in certain quarters, is to be found in the fact that his countrymen have brought his name before the public, in evidence of their confidence in his integrity, for the highest official honors within their gift.

Yours, truly, REVERDY JOHNSON.

Adjutant General Jones, Washington.

Adjutant General Jones's reply.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 2, 1848.
DEAR SIR: I duly received your letter of the 20th ultimo, and, having examined the article of the "Union" of September 28, referred to, have no hesitation in saying that all the pay and allowances specified as having been received by Major General TAYLOR were in strict conformity to law and the regulations of the War Department made pursuant thereto; and are precisely such as any other officer similarly situated would have been entitled to receive.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, R. JONES, Adj. General.

Hon. R. JOHNSON, Baltimore, Md.

GERMANY.

The following is the latest news from Germany, as transmitted to Liverpool by Telegraph on the eve of the sailing of the last steamer:

"It is satisfactory to learn by the advices received this morning that the insurrection at Baden, under Struve, has been completely put down. Struve and his followers have been completely defeated by the German forces under Gen. Hoffmann. The engagement was of a determined kind; the insurgents fought with great bravery. Struve himself was taken prisoner, tried by a court martial, and shot; the same sentence was also passed upon eight of his followers who were taken prisoners along with him. The free corps are exterminated, all but one thousand men, who still hang together, and who will probably fall into the hands of the Wurtemberg troops."

"Cologne was tranquil, but the state of siege was still continued. On the 28th many arrests of persons connected with the late outbreak had taken place."

A CAPITAL ILLUSTRATION.—The following capital illustration of Mr. Van Buren's sudden love of freedom is from a speech of Mr. BRADY:

"Mr. Brady, as an illustration of Mr. Van Buren's late-day enthusiasm for Free Soil, told a capital story of an Indian squaw, who enlisted the sympathies of a traveller by bitter wallings for a child, which, as it subsequently appeared, had died twenty years before. On being reproached with death, the old squaw said that she knew that her purpose had been lying in the grave twenty years, but (with a fresh burst of grief) she could not stand it any longer."

A GOOD COMMENT.—The steamer Empire State left Buffalo on Friday evening for Chicago with the richest freight and passenger bill that has yet left the former port, her receipts for passengers, according to the Buffalo Commercial, being between twelve and fifteen thousand dollars. Her spacious cabin was well filled with a living multitude, and in her ample hold was stored "much merchandise."

GENERAL TAYLOR.

It is not less instructive than curious to look back to the opinions formed of Gen. TAYLOR by those who were brought in contact with him before his countrymen made him, whether he would or no, a candidate for the Presidency. The paragraphs copied below are part of a letter from a distinguished Officer of the Navy, who served in co-operation with Gen. TAYLOR on the Rio Grande in 1846, which was published in the Washington Union in June of that year—a period when the official gazette was willing to do justice to the hero whose great exploits had then rescued the Administration from that condemnation which the iniquity of the Mexican war would otherwise have brought upon it.

FROM THE UNION OF JUNE, 1846.
"UNITED STATES SHIP POTOMAC,
"Off Rio Grande, May 20, 1846.

"MY DEAR SIR: I had the pleasure of receiving your friendly note of the 13th March, and regret that it has not been in my power to write you sooner in return; but since our arrival here I have been so much occupied, in both field and field, that I have not been able to write to any body except my family, and to them in a very hurried way only. "The news of the late most glorious victories of our gallant little army will be old to you before this reaches Washington, and no doubt the official reports of Gen. Taylor are already in the public prints. When we look at the great superiority in numbers of the Mexican troops—being nearly if not quite three to one of ours engaged—and consider also the advantage of the positions they occupied in the chaparrals on each side of the road by which our troops were compelled to advance, I think it must be conceded by all the world that a more brilliant achievement can hardly be found on the records of history. "We of the squadron were off Vera Cruz when we were informed that orders had been sent to Gen. Arista to commence hostilities against our army on the banks of the Bravo. We immediately made sail for this place to put ourselves in communication with Gen. Taylor, and to co-operate with him as far as might be practicable. We had a short passage, and anchored off the Braso Santiago on the 8th, at the very moment the first battle was raging with its greatest violence. "The roar of the artillery—which for a few hours was incessant—was distinctly heard, and the clouds of ascending smoke seen from our ships—the battle-field being not more than seventeen miles from us. Our arrival was deemed quite opportune, and was immediately communicated to the General by express. His great depot of supplies at Point Isabel, on which the salvation of his army depended, had been necessarily left with a very small force for its protection. "This point we were requested to reinforce; and, being all anxious that the navy should be entirely lost sight of in this war, you will readily believe we were not slow in complying with this request. Accordingly five hundred men were landed from the squadron as fast as they could be got on shore—Captain Gregory, myself, the commanders of the John Adams and brig Somers, with several other officers accompanied them—of course all hands volunteers. We spent three days in camp pleasantly enough, as a novelty in the life of a sailor, but there was no fighting left for us to lend a hand at. The brave little army had finished all that work, and most thoroughly did they do it, too; for I doubt if there was a Mexican soldier, excepted the prisoners and wounded, on the left bank of the Bravo one hour after the rout began; all fled for the river, and many were drowned in attempting to swim it. The Mexicans lost from a thousand to twelve hundred men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. As far their missing, the probability is that not more than one-third of the number with which Arista commenced the campaign can now be mustered or even heard of by him. The rest have been dispersed and fled in all directions, and will not stop running until they reach their homes. Our loss in killed was forty-nine, and we had one hundred and five wounded altogether in both battles. I learnt from a Mexican grenadier, who had a leg shot off in the first battle, and was brought into our camp at Point Isabel, that they had at least six thousand men and five or six generals in the field on the day he was wounded, and during the night of that day they brought over from Matamoros all the troops that had been left there as a reserve, and they were engaged in the second and last battle. The whole number of their forces was probably not less than seven thousand."

"General Taylor is an extraordinary man, and has less of the military in his appearance than any man I have ever seen who wore a sword. He came into our camp on the 11th, dressed and looking like a very plain, good natured, honest, well-to-do-in-the-world farmer, in search of a market for his crop, with not so much as a single uniform button to be seen about him. We received him with three hearty cheers. But our sailors, who like such fun, would not stop until they had given him nine. Notwithstanding his farmer-like appearance, the field of battle is said to be his very element. There he is cool and perfectly self-possessed; his only fault as a General is, that he is too apt to be found in that part of the field where the balls fly thickest. Neither he nor his horse received the slightest scratch, though he told me that his orderly's horse was killed by his side, by a cannon ball that passed between the legs of his horse. He has the utmost confidence in himself, and seems to know just what he can do, and what he cannot; and he appears to have the faculty of inspiring those around him with the same confidence in him that he himself possesses. He has constantly said, as I am told, and he repeated the same thing to me, that he has never for a moment entertained a doubt that he should beat the Mexicans if they dared to attack him, notwithstanding the great superiority of their numbers. I hope, however, he may not be ordered or permitted to advance far into the country without an army of at least 20,000 men. With such a force, well appointed and provided with every thing necessary, he will be able to dictate his own terms of peace, before he gets half way from the Bravo to the city of Mexico. This, I am sure, would be the most economical, as well as humane and expeditious mode of terminating the war."

Notwithstanding the very rational opinion of the gallant writer of this letter, that General TAYLOR could not venture into Mexico, with an army of less than 20,000 men, he did advance with less than a fourth of that number, (thanks to the Government for leaving him to fight his way under such appalling odds,) and captured fortified cities and conquered armies four times his own number. We had no design to extend this notice beyond the insertion of the above extract, which a friend pointed out to us in the files of the Union; but meeting among our mail papers of the day with one or two articles on the same subject, we think it proper to subjoin them:

GENERAL TAYLOR'S ABILITIES.—At a large Whig meeting in Roxbury last week, Gen. WILLIAM H. SEANER presided. He said he was personally acquainted with Zachary Taylor many years ago; had been on a Board of Officers with him for six weeks at a time, and could bear testimony to his capacity, his sense of justice, and his incorruptible integrity. Gen. Sumner alluded to the charges brought against Gen. Taylor by some of his opponents, of his literary incapacity, inasmuch that he was unable to write his own letters, and related them in the most satisfactory manner, by exhibiting to the audience the celebrated letter of the General to Gen. Gaines, which created such consternation in Mr. Polk's Cabinet. The letter was Taylor's own handwriting, and very closely written, covered four pages, containing but few erasures and on ungrammatical expression. This letter was handed to the audience, and examined with much interest and curiosity by many persons present.

The following is the testimony of a gentleman of the highest integrity and intelligence. The Hon. BENJAMIN THOMPSON, of Massachusetts, who was a member of the 29th Congress, in his letter accepting a nomination for the next, refers to Gen.

Taylor in the following emphatic and honorable terms:

"For Gen. Taylor I have a great and growing respect, and hold in high estimation his distinguished worth and his substantial good qualities. My place in the last Congress, as a member of the Military Committee, early led me to an acquaintance with his position in the field, and his political position, as known to all, and as viewed by the Executive. I was also an attentive and anxious observer of him, in all the perils and exposures through which he was doomed to pass, crippled in physical force, and embarrassed by the absence of Executive favor. I observed, with increasing admiration, those admirable traits of character developed by the emergencies and trials of his progress from Palo Alto to Buena Vista; and my sympathies were early and strongly enlisted in his behalf, when I beheld him manfully struggling self-defence, with obstacles thrown in his way to check his rising fame; and not less so when—to use his own emphatic language—with a halter about his neck, and his most effective forces withdrawn, he, for the honor of his country, struggled yet more nobly with the enemy in the field, and with a superiority of force that to most men would have been utterly appalling. I was also convinced, by evidence that I knew could not deceive me, that Gen. Taylor, in his political views and preferences, was a Whig—not ultra, indeed, but none the less acceptable to me for this—and I well knew why he said, in his own manly and dignified manner, 'I ask no favor and I shrink from no responsibility.' And when, to the courage, judgment, ability, and integrity which he displayed, I saw him distinguished by that crowning excellence, Humanity, which is alike ennobling to the humble and the exalted, and whether exhibited towards a suffering solitary soldier, or the women and children of a besieged city, trembling under impending destruction, I saw enough in the man both to respect and admire, and I left Washington with a fixed impression that, whatever might be the destiny of Gen. Taylor, he could be relied upon as an able, independent, and honorable man. And it is this heroic citizen, who has won the highest renown for his country, and whose private virtues reflect back lustre on his military achievements—of whom it might be presumed that every heart, not enfeebled and deadened by the rust of party, would delight to praise and honor—it is this illustrious veteran who is made the subject of daily vituperation, disparagement, and detraction in the journals of the party calling itself Democratic, pre-eminent in which grovelling and unworthy vocation are we sorry to name the official journal itself."

A GOOD WHIG MOTTO.
"MY wounded are behind me, and I will never pass them alive."—Gen. TAYLOR.
What sententious sublimity is embodied in this sentence! How strikingly it exemplifies the Old Hero's humanity! Indomitable courage and the tenderest sympathy are beautifully blended in his noble character. This language was addressed, while the terrible conflict of Buena Vista was at its height, to the gallant DAVIS, of Mississippi. He had been cut down at the head of his regiment. He knew the merciless spirit of the enemy, and that to fall into their hands was certain death. It was doubtless an allusion to this spirit which elicited this sublime remark. "The wounded are behind me," says Old Zack. "They are secure until we are driven from our present position. The odds are fearfully against us, and we may be beaten; but you, and the noble men who, like you, have been wounded, are safe so long as we live; for we will NEVER PASS THEM ALIVE!"

The occasion upon which this language was uttered was one of affecting interest. With 4,500 men, Gen. TAYLOR was fighting 20,000 Mexicans. He saw his men falling upon every hand, and the enemy rushing forward with a furious courage and impetuosity unequalled in any previous combat. The stoutest hearts trembled for the issue. Defeat seemed inevitable. While thus pressed, and when the bravest expected every moment to be compelled to give way under the weight of the mass advancing upon them, Gen. TAYLOR, in the same breath that he issued his orders and cheered on his brave followers, was pressing the hand and pouring the words of comfort into the ear of his wounded Colonel.—Allan Journal.

TROPHIES FOR WEST POINT.

It was mentioned in the papers, some time ago, that General SCOTT had presented to the Military Academy a variety of trophies taken in the Mexican war. We copy the following correspondence relative to the donation from the Courier and Enquirer:

WEST POINT, SEPTEMBER 14, 1848.

SIR: I offer, through you, to the United States Military Academy, sections of seven flag-staffs taken by the gallant army of the United States in the campaign commenced at Vera Cruz and terminated in the capital of Mexico. Four other staffs, captured with the strong works, viz: the smothered camp of Contreras, the convent of Churubusco, the bridgehead of Churubusco, and the attack of Mexico, were divided into small individual trophies by our officers and men before my wishes on the subject had become known to the parties.

Of course all captured flags, colors, &c. were, as national trophies, sent to Washington.

The following inscriptions have been placed on the respective objects:

- 1. "Part of the flag-staff of the Castle of San Juan de Ulu, Vera Cruz, taken by the American army March 30, 1847."
2. "Part of the flag-staff of Fort San Inigo, Vera Cruz, taken by the American army March 23, 1847."
3. "Part of the flag-staff of Fort Contreras, Vera Cruz, taken by the American army March 20, 1847."
4. "Part of the flag-staff of Cerro Gordo, taken by the American army April 18, 1847."
5. "Part of the flag-staff of the Castle of Perote, taken by the American army April 23, 1847."
6. "Part of the flag-staff of the Castle of Chapultepec, taken by the American army September 13, 1847."
7. "Part of the flag-staff of the Castle of Chapultepec, taken by the American army September 14, 1847."

At the foot of each inscription this line is added: "The plates (and caps—all brass) made of the mountings of captured muskets."
It may be worth stating that the caps and plates were made in the Citadel of Mexico by the mechanics of our own army. As, under Providence, it was mainly the military Academy that the United States became indebted for their own achievements, and other memorials of victory, I have a lively pleasure in tendering these trophies (semi-national) to the mother of so many accomplished soldiers and patriots. If acceptable, please give them such place of deposit in the Academy as you may deem appropriate.

With high respect and esteem, I remain, yours, respectfully,